Children need parents & teachers to speak up for the:

Education Improvement Scholarship Program

The Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC), the public policy agency representing Virginia's bishops and two dioceses, needs your help! The advocacy by parents, children & teachers is vital to the preservation and growth of an important program in Virginia that provides equal educational opportunities for children in Virginia.

The Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit (EISTC) program provides low-income K-12 students with a scholarship to be used for a private school of their choosing, empowering parents to make the best educational choice for their child. The scholarships are funded by private donations to scholarship foundations. Unfortunately, there have been an increasing number of threats to the continuation of the EISTC program which cannot be ignored. Legislators need to hear from you now more than ever!

You can make a difference in a child's life!

Ways to get involved:

- * Testimonials by you parents, children & teachers whose lives have been impacted by the EISTC program (letters, video message, blogs).
- * Meeting with your legislators in their local district offices personal stories need to be heard about how EISTC scholarships change lives for the better.
- * Attendance/Testimony at Virginia General Assembly Hearings in Richmond.
- * Join the VCC Advocacy Network at <u>www.vacatholic.org</u> where you will receive email action alerts & updates on education legislative issues.
- Parent volunteers to help coordinate advocacy efforts on the school/local/ state level, i.e. social media campaigns, phone call drives during key votes, visits to the capital by students & families during session & key hearings.
- * Donate to the diocese scholarship foundation, which will provide not only scholarships to at-risk children, but a state tax credit for you.
- Educate your friends & neighbors about the benefits of the EISTC program whether as a scholarship recipient or as a potential donor.

We cannot succeed alone in our efforts to advance the EISTC program in Virginia. Please contact the VCC to become involved. We can walk you through the process. Thank you so much for all you do! Call or Email ANYTIME to get involved:

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